

REMARKS

New claims 19-29 are pending in the application with the present amendments. Claims 1-18 have been canceled by the present amendment in favor of the newly presented claims.

Applicant respectfully submits that the new claims presented herein avoid the concerns which prompted the Examiner's prior rejection of claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. §112. For the reasons set forth below, it is also respectfully submitted that the presently pending claims overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) of claims 1-17 made over European Patent Publication No. EP 0360527 A2 to Umeda ("*Umeda*") and the rejection of claim 18 that was made over *Umeda* in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,739,476 to Fiduccia ("*Fiduccia*").

As recited in the presently pending claims, e.g., claim 19, a multi-processor system includes a plurality of processors, a controller operable to broadcast broadcast data to the processors, including data usable by the processors in performing data processing, and a sort mechanism which is operable to receive identification data from ones of the processors upon the ones of the processors completing the data processing, the identification data identifying the ones of the plurality of processors. The sort mechanism is further operable to send the identification data received by it to the controller in a predetermined order. The controller is operable to obtain at least some of the identification data from the sort mechanism to use as obtained identification data. The controller is also operable to obtain results of the data processing completed by the ones of the plurality of processors and to generate and broadcast the broadcast data including the obtained results and at least some of the obtained identification data.

As presented herein, each of the independent claims further recites the generation and/or sending of priority data regarding the data processing by ones of a plurality of processors, and recites the use of the priority data in determining an order in which identification data is sent by a processor or data processing means. For example, new claim 19 recites that the processors are operable to generate and send priority data which is usable to determine an order of reading the results of the data processing. Claim 19 further recites a sort mechanism which is operable to determine, based on the priority data, an order in which ones of the plurality of processors send the identification data.

By contrast, none of the references cited by the Examiner teaches or suggests this recited feature of the claimed invention. *Umeda* merely describes a sequencer (col. 6, lns. 5-15). Nothing in *Umeda* teaches or suggests that such sequencer has a function to determine an order of reading the results of data processing. Instead, the sequencer of *Umeda* is merely described as determining a sequence for "reading out the control information from the control memory" (col. 6, lns. 22-24).

Similar recitations are found in all other independent claims 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 and 29 of the application. Since all of the claims contain such recitation or depend from a claim which contains such recitation, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims overcome the rejections of the Office Action.

Support for the amendments made herein is provided, *inter alia*, at pg. 5, lns. 1-4 and at pg. 21, lns. 9-13 of the Specification.

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. If,

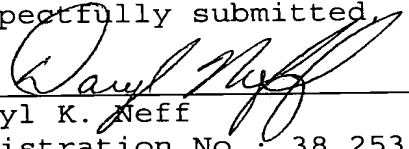
however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

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Respectfully submitted,

By


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